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history of our knowledge of the Triassic, Jurassic, Cretaceous and Tertiary formations of this continent." This description consists in part of extracts compiled from the writings of American geologists, and in part of the author's own observations. It forms a valuable synopsis of the subject, and the references to the palæontology will be especially welcome, since it is the only compilation of this work in existence. Such a work deserves especial commendation, since American naturalists are generally precluded from taking it up owing to the pressure of new work. It is to be hoped that Mr. Miller will be able to accomplish for the extinct vertebrates what he has already done for the invertebrates, in his synopsis of the described genera and species. Mr. Miller's views as to the glacial period are very pronounced. He does not find any evidence of the existence of such a period in North America, either in the stratigraphy or the fossils.

ON THE STRUCTURE AND DEVELOPMENT OF THE SKULL IN THE BATRACHIA, Part III, by Wm. Kitchen Parker, F.R.S.¹—This is the latest of Professor Parker's memoirs, which form a series of much value. The study of the morphology of the vertebrate skull has always possessed a high interest, and Professor Parker's contributions have added much to our knowledge of it. The present part refers to the *Anura*, and includes descriptions of numerous species and genera. Of the anatomical work we can speak in terms of high praise. Unfortunately Professor Parker has not been able to learn, from his researches, the true relations of the contents of the order of *Anura*. This is seen in his adherence to the system of Günther, which is, in every respect, worthless; and in his entire ignorance of the work of American naturalists on the subject. In this country the osteology of the *Anura* was understood sixteen years ago, and the classification was then placed upon a positive foundation. Professor Parker's knowledge of the literature is evidently not what it should be. The memoir is illustrated by forty-four beautifully executed plates.

RECENT BOOKS AND PAMPHLETS.—Notes on the Vertebrata of the Preglacial Forest Bed Series of the East of England. Part IV. Rodentia and Insectivora. By E. T. Newton, F.R.S.

Notes on the Vertebrata of the Pre-glacial Forest Bed Series of East of England. Part V. Proboscidae and Cretacea. By E. T. Newton, F.R.S. 8vo, pp. 8. From the Geological Magazine, June and July, 1881. London, 1881. From the author.

Proceedings of the United States National Museum. 8vo, pp. 34. Washington, 1881.

Proceedings of the Academy of Sciences, Philadelphia, July 1881. pp. 15. Philadelphia, 1881.

Proceedings of the American Association for the Advancement of Science, Twenty-ninth Meeting, held in Boston, Mass., Aug., 1880. 8vo, pp. 800, plates, cuts. Published by the society, Salem, 1881. From the society.

¹ On the Structure and Development of the Skull in the Batrachia. By WILLIAM KITCHEN PARKER, F.R.S. Part III. 4to, pp. 266, 44 plates. From the Philosophical Transactions of the Royal Society. Published by the Society. London, 1881.

Further notes on the Pollination of *Yucca* and on *Pronuba* and *Prodoxus*. By C. V. Riley. 8vo, pp. 34, cuts. From the Proceedings of the American Association for the Advancement of Science, Aug, 1880. 1881. From the author.

Transformations of Planorbis at Stemheim, with remarks on the effects of gravity upon the forms of shells and animals. By Alpheus Hyatt. 8vo, r.p. 28, 2 plates, cuts. Abstract from the Proceedings of the American Association for the Advancement of Science, August, 1881. Boston, 1881. From the author.

On the Origin of the Iron Ores of the Marquette District of Lake Superior. By M. E. Wadsworth. From the Proceedings of the Boston Society of Natural History. 8vo, pp. 12. Boston, 1881. From the author.

The Glacial Phenomena of North America and their relation to the question of Man's Antiquity in the Valley of the Delaware. By Rev. Frederick G. Wright. 8vo, pp. 8. Philadelphia, 1881. From the author.

Census Bulletin No. 223. Preliminary Report on the Production of Anthracite Coal. By Raphael Pampelly, Director. pp. 6.

Census Bulletin No. 245. Preliminary Report upon the Salt Manufactures of the United States. By W. L. Rowland, Special Agent for Chemical Industry. pp. 2.

Census Bulletin No. 246. Statement of Indebtedness and analysis of the outstanding Bonded Debt of the Cities and Towns of the United States containing a population of 7500 and upwards. By Robert P. Porter, Special Agent on Wealth, Debt and Taxation. pp. 10.

Census Bulletin No. 251. Cotton Produce. By Eug. W. Hilgard, Special Agent in charge of Cotton Production. pp. 6.

Census Bulletin No. 261. Statistics of the Fisheries of the Great Lakes. By G. Browne Goode, Special Agent in charge of Fisheries Division, pp. 8. Department of the Interior, Census Office, Washington. Government Printing Office, Washington, D. C., 1881. From the Sec. Interior.

Om de formentleige Levinger af en Kæmpemæssig, med Cariama, beslættet, uddod Fugl fra Brasiliens Knoglehuler. Af J. Reinhardt. 8vo, pp. 13. (Afttryk af Vidensk. Medd. fra den Naturh. Foren. 1, Kjøbenhavn, 1881. From the author.

Vogle Bewærkniger om Gumlesnes, især Bæltedyrenes, Bækken. Af J. Reinhardt. 8vo, pp. 11, 1 plate. Afttryk af Vidensk. meddl. fra den Natur. Foren. 1, Kjøbenhavn, 1881. From the author.

Notes on the habits of the Manatees (*Manatus australis*) in captivity in the Brighton Aquarium. By Agnes Crane. 8vo, pp. 6, cut. From the Proceedings of the Zoological Society of London. London, 1881. From the authoress.

Public Gardens and Plantations. Hints and suggestions for raising Cinchona plants from the seed and establishing Cinchona plantations. By D. Morris, Director of Public Gardens and Plantations. 4to, pp. 4. Kingston, Jamaica, 1881. From the director.

Cinchona Cultivation in Jamaica. 4to, pp. 2. (Kingston) Jamaica, 1881. From the Botanical Department.

La Emulacion Periodico de la Sociedad Medico-Farmaceutica. Redactor en Jeff Jaun Dondé. Tomo IV, numeros 475. Administrador, J. R. Sauri. Merida, Yucatan, 1881. From the administrator.

Primitive Industry; or Illustrations of the handiwork in Stone, Bone and Clay of the Native Races of the Northern Atlantic seaboard of America. By Charles C. Abbott, M.D. Roy. 8vo, pp. 560, cuts, bound. Salem, Mass., 1881. From the author.

Horses' Teeth; a treatise on their mode of development, physiological relations, anatomy, microscopical character, pathology and dentistry; based on the well-known odontologists and veterinary surgeons; to which is added a vocabulary of the medical and technical words used. By William H. Clark. 12mo, pp. 262, cuts, bound. New York, 1881. From the author.

Bacteria; the smallest of living organisms. By Dr. Ferdinand Cohn. Translated by Charles S. Dalley. 8vo, pp. 30, 1 plate. Rochester, N. Y., 1881. From the translator.

The Journal of the Cincinnati Society of Natural History, Vol. iv, No. 3, Oct., 1881. 8vo, pp. 80, 1 plate, cuts. Cincinnati, 1881. From the society.

Tenth Report of the State Entomologist on the Noxious and Beneficial Insects of the State of Illinois. By Cyrus Thomas, Ph.D., State Entomologist. 8vo, pp. 232, cuts. Springfield, 1881. From the author.

Notes upon the genus *Catocala*, with descriptions of new varieties and species. By Henry Edwards. 8vo, pp. 8. From the Bulletin of the Brooklyn Entomological Society, November, 1880. Brooklyn, 1880. From the author.

Palæontological Bulletin, No. 33. On some Mammalia of the Lowest Eocene beds of New Mexico. By E. D. Cope. 8vo, pp. 12. Ext. Am. Phil. Soc. Philadelphia, Sept. 17, 1881. From the author.

The Century Plant. By Joseph F. James. 8vo, pp. 2. Ext. from the Journal of the Cincinnati Society of Natural History. Cincinnati, 1881. From the author.

Fourteenth Annual Report of the Trustees of the Peabody Museum of American Archaeology and Ethnology, Vol. III, No. 1. 8vo, pp. 42. Cambridge, 1881. From the curator.

Geology of Washtenaw county, Michigan. By Alexander Winchell. 8vo, pp. 30. Ext. from the History of Washtenaw county. Chicago, 1881. From the author.

Climate of Michigan. By Alexander Winchell. 8vo, pp. 12. From the Annual Report of the Horticultural Society, 1880. Chicago, 1881. From the author.

Proceedings of the United States National Museum, August, 30, 1881. 8vo, pp. 30. Washington, 1881. From the society.

The nature of the existence of Matter. By Edward Randall Knowles. pp. 8. Pascoag, R. I., 1881.

Studies in Astronomy. A lecture elaborated for general readers. By Arthur K. Bartlett. 12mo, pp. 56. Battle Creek, Mich., 1881. From the author.

Bulletin of the Essex Institute, Vol. XIII, Nos. 4, 5, 6—April, May, June, 1881. 8vo, pp. 76. Salem, 1881. From the society.

Circulars of Information of the Bureau of Education, No. 6, 1881. A Report on the teachings of Chemistry and Physics in the United States. By Frank Wigglesworth Clark, S.B. 8vo, pp. 220. Government Printing Office, Washington, 1881. From the Sec. of Interior:

Charter and By-Laws of the Texas Copper Mining and Manufacturing Company. A History of the Company. A Letter from the Department of the Interior. By Joseph S. Wilson, Commissioner. Professor Wm. DeRyees' Geological Report. 8vo, pp. 16. Dallas, Texas, 1880. From the company.

Mining World, Sept. 15, 1881, Vol. II, No. 2. 4to, pp. 16. Los Vegas, N. M.

Report to his Excellency, the Governor. The Thirty-ninth Missouri University Catalogue, 1880-81. 8vo, pp. 172, 5 plates. Jefferson City, 1881. From the university.

Report on the Geology and Resources of the Black Hills of Dakota, with Atlas. By H. Newton, M.E., and Walter Jenney, M.E. Department of the Interior, Washington, U. S. Geog. and Geol. Survey of the Rocky Mountain region, J. W. Powell in charge. 4to, pp. 564, 1880.

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GENERAL NOTES.

BOTANY.¹

AN INTERESTING LADY'S SLIPPER.—Professor Bastin, of the University of Chicago, describes and figures, in a recent number of *The Druggist*, a two-flowered specimen of the large Lady's Slipper (*Cypripedium spectabile*), which he found while botanizing last June in the region at the southern end of Lake Michigan.

¹ Edited by PROF. C. E. BESSEY, Ames, Iowa.